

LOCAL TALENT TO PLAY LARGE PART IN MAY FESTIVAL

Wednesday Club's Chorus of 300
Will Aid Celebrated Artists
Attending.

INTEREST GROWS RAPIDLY

All Richmond to Hear Famous
Singers and Performers
May 5-6.

Setting a milestone in the musical history of Richmond, the Wednesday Club, for its twentieth annual season of opera, which will be held Monday and Tuesday, May 5 and 6, with a matinee on Tuesday, has managed to obtain for all three of the concerts that proper blending of the popular and classical in music for which the organization has been striving throughout its existence. It has been no easy task reaching this height. Each year has been a stepping-stone, a period of education, learning not only what the great and ever-increasing audience desired, but what was more important, finding out on just what ground the public's musical mind would best grow.

While every people is essentially musical, it is a peculiar paradox that with the broadening influences of progress, with the coming of knowledge and the advent of social intercourse, with the many complex and differing advantages offered by organized society, the basic element of which all peoples are composed, becomes less potent in its influence. Music, which is the natural mode of expression of the earlier days, becomes a diversion, an amusement, and, in too many instances, an aversion in many highly civilized communities. It is for the purpose of reinforcing the basic musical love that such associations as the Wednesday Club are organized.

That the local organization has done its work well is best shown by the increasing interest each year, by the greater numbers attending the concerts, by the higher musical tone pervading every element of society. Showing their appreciation of this public approval, the officers and the workers of the Wednesday Club have striven, and believe that they have partially, at least, succeeded, in giving that which the public most desired. These concerts have always been entertaining; they have always furnished hours of pleasure to thousands; they have been oases in the annual musical drought; they have been all this, plus a most active force in spreading the musical ideas throughout the city and State and revitalizing the dormant divine spark in the popular mind.

No Efforts Spared.

Seeking to achieve all of these aims neither time nor money has been spared. Such a statement is bromide to an extreme degree, and its only excuse here is that it is so literally true. Scan the list of artists to appear.

Probably leading the array because of the wider publicity he has had, as well as his native ability, is Alessandro Bonci. Brought to the country by Oscar Hammerstein for his Manhattan Opera Company, Bonci was ac-

claimed a greater tenor than Caruso. Critics went to hear him and most of them were critical skeptics. They left with the unanimous verdict that Bonci, though not possessed of the robust voice of his countryman, sang with equal ability, had a voice which rang more nearly true to bel canto, and that its rare, rich tones, made it a thing of joy. He has steadily improved through acquaintance until today, without taking anything from the great Caruso, Bonci is certainly his equal as an attraction on the concert stage.

Giuseppe Sturani, who will lead the Metropolitan Opera Company's orchestra, is one of the most consummate handlers of the baton ever appearing in this country. Though still a young man, he is held in the highest esteem by the older leaders, and his work was

a revelation to those who first watched him. And so it goes down the list. Althouse and Whitehill; Caroline White and Margaret Keyes; Helen Stanley and Janet Spencer, with Bettie Burwell Booker, daughter of the Old Dominion, but claimed by many nations—all of these are so well known that repetition of their praise is a waste of words. Then there is Tina Lerner, the wonderful pianist from Poland, the home of other wonderful performers on the piano. So far as stars are concerned, there is literally a plethora. The public can feast and feast and gorge itself on the wonderful in music wonderfully rendered.

Climax to Carnival.

As a climax to the two-day carnival "Aida," that stirring story of Egypt in the days of the Pharaohs, will be sung on Tuesday night, accompanied by the Wednesday Club's chorus of 300 voices.

Madame Schumann-Heink, who is well known here and well loved, has always said that of all the roles she has sung, that of Aida, in the opera of the same name, is her favorite, both because of the purity and sweetness of the music and its dramatic possibilities. Experts agree that Verdi wrote his masterpiece in "Aida." By royal command of the Khedive of Egypt it was composed, and tells a story of

love and war, so terribly thrilling, yet so compelling in its musical intensity, that the audience sits spellbound. This will mark a departure from the usual program of the club, since it will be the first opera ever attempted. The great chorus, directed by W. Henry Baker, and composed of the best vocal talent in Richmond, containing in its ranks the foremost choral

singers of the city, is ready now. It has been preparing since last October, and the difficult music will be rendered in a manner to reflect credit, not only upon the members of the chorus, but upon Richmond. With everything possible to attract, there is every reason to believe that the season of 1913 will be by far the most successful from every standpoint in the history of the organization.

With the Palace Bowlers

BY R. N. (JAKE) ROWSEY.

Big game Thursday night—Rowsey's Pets, vs. Cosby's All Stars—at 8:30 o'clock.

Thursday night on the Palace Alleys will probably be witnessed one of the best duckpin matches ever rolled in this city, when Rowsey's Pets meet Cosby's All Stars for a series of three games. There will be nine games rolled, highest total to count for the winner of the series.

The line-up will be: Rowsey's Pets—Bailey, Richardson, Anderson, Thorpe and Rowsey. Cosby's All Stars—Pat-

rick, B. Jordan, C. Lohmann, C. H. Cosby, C. L. Cosby and Gilbert, sub.

The series this week ought to be exciting, as Rowsey's Pets have strengthened considerably, while the All Stars are rolling their same line-up as in the last series with the exception that Corley has signed "Dimples" Gilbert as substitute on the five.

Thorpe, who is probably one of the best duckpin bowlers in the city although Thorpe, Rowsey and L. Cosby have had some mighty hard battles

BETTIE BURWELL BOOKER



Charming Richmond girl whose marvelous voice has won unstinted praise on both sides of the Atlantic. She will be heard as one of the principals in the concerts of the Wednesday Club May 5-6.

Amusements

Amusements

ACADEMY--WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, APRIL 28

THE MANAGEMENT BEGS TO ANNOUNCE

The **LUCILLE LAVERNE** Co.

WITH **GRAYCE SCOTT**

IN GRACE GEORGE'S GREATEST SUCCESS,

A Woman's Way

Prices—15c, 25c, 35c, 50c. A few seats at 75c.

THIS WEEK. Night 8:20 **BIJOU** MATINEES. Tues., Thursday and Saturday. Matinee 2:30

JUST ONE WEEK.

"THAT FUNNY LITTLE FELLOW."

GEORGE SIDNEY (HIMSELF),

IN HIS 1913 EDITION OF

BUSY IZZY

WITH CARRIE WEBBER AND GREAT COMPANY.

Comedians Singers Dancers

WEEK OF MAY 5TH—"BILLY THE KID."

COLONIAL New Bill

The Five Lunatics One of the Greatest Crazy Comedy School Acts of the Year.

See Yourself at the Colonial.

Billy K. Wells Star Comedy Entertainer.

See Yourself at the Colonial.

Harry Augustus

Turpin In a Little Bit of Everything That's Good.

See Yourself at the Colonial.

Lewis & Lewis Musical Comicalities.

See Yourself at the Colonial.

W. S. Harvey & Co. In an Original Offering, "A Room Upside Down."

See Yourself at the Colonial.

PERFECT PICTURE PLAYS.

MATINEE Daily, 3 P. M.

NIGHTS, 7:15 and 9 P. M.

Prices: Matinee, 5c, 10c, 20c; Nights, 10c, 20c, 30c.

EMPIRE

Week of April 28.

Crowning Beauty of Tabloid.

"The College Girls"

In Their Leisure at Home and Their Joyfulness Abroad.

A Fun and Song Session of Surpassing Excellence.

DAILY MATINEE 3:00 P. M.

11---Principals---11

With the Clever German Farceur,

MARTIN J. GOULD,

And the Irresistible Irishman,

FRANK M. CHRISTY,

As the Star Fun Makers of the Session.

EACH NIGHT 7:30 and 9 P. M.

12---Chorus Girls---12

Of Amazing Beauty, the equal of whom in pulchritudinousness have never before been gathered together in this city on any stage.

Saturday Matinees, 2:00 and 3:30 P. M.

Prices: Matinee, 5c, 10c, 20c; Nights, 10c, 20c, 30c.

ADOPT SCHEDULE IN Y. M. H. A. LEAGUE

A final meeting of the committee representing the Young Men's Hebrew Association of Richmond, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Newport News will be held to-day in the last named city for the purpose of making arrangements for the four-club baseball league to be formed. A schedule will be adopted and officers elected. All four cities are represented by first-class ball players and the home-and-home series are expected to prove vastly attractive to the members.

Excursions

Ladies of Grace Street Baptist Church
WHIT MONDAY
EXCURSION
TO WASHINGTON

Monday, May 12, 1913.

Train will leave Hancock and Broad Streets at 9 A. M. Returning, will leave Washington Tuesday, May 13, at 6 P. M. J. M. Thompson, the old reliable excursionist, will be manager.

Vitalized Rubber will give you the greatest mileage

For 16 years our chemists have tested and experimented with pure rubber and fabric.

Our engineers have constructed and torn down thousands of test tires.

We have supplemented their work with the most modern tire building machinery.

We have spared neither time nor expense to give you the "More Mileage" tire you demanded—and now we offer you

Diamond (No Clinch) Tires

made of Vitalized Rubber

Our engineers have mastered the principles of Rim Contact construction, and you can get the Diamond (No-Clinch) Tire, with Perfect 3-Point Rim Contact—an important advantage that has been heretofore overlooked.

Here is a combination of easy-riding and more mileage advantages you can't get in any other tire today—Vitalized Rubber, Perfect 3-Point Rim Contact, No-Finch Safety Flap, for inner tube protection—and, if you wish, the now famous Safety (Squeegie) Tread—made to fit all types of rims.

So this time buy Diamond Vitalized Rubber Tires—you can get them to fit your rims at any of the

25,000 Diamond Dealers always at your Service